

Charitable Games

Newsletter

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COMMUNICATION

It is our goal to ensure that each organization has the basic knowledge required to maintain accurate accounting of their bingo occasions and a basic knowledge of the statutes and regulations which govern bingo. If you need assistance in gaining this knowledge, please contact our office. We will be happy to assist you over the phone or in person. You are welcome to visit our office to meet with one of our staff and obtain whatever assistance you deem necessary. Or if you prefer, we can schedule an appointment and come to your location to answer your questions or train you in record keeping requirements and the preparation of the required reports.

If you have any suggestions for improving the overall communication between the Commission and the organizations, please let us know.

Illegal Activities and Public Trust

The Gaming Commission takes immediate action to revoke the bingo license of organizations that engage in any form of criminal activity. Please don't risk losing your bingo program over illegal gambling machines, illegal poker tournaments or other activities that cannot be allowed to co-exist with licensed charitable games. Maintaining the public's trust in the integrity of bingo and pull-tab games will benefit all bingo organizations – and it is the responsibility of every bingo organization to protect that trust.

Please keep in mind that your bingo and/or hall provider license could also be jeopardized if you lease your property to another organization and that organization engages in an illegal activity.

The New Color of Money

The United States Government continues issuing currency with enhanced designs and security features. New \$20 and \$50 notes were introduced in 2003 and 2004. The \$10 note was introduced in 2006. The US Government feels that the redesigned currency is safer, and more secure because it is harder to fake and easier to check. The Department of the Treasury's Bureau of Engraving and Printing has developed a variety of educational materials to assist you in becoming comfortable using and accepting the new bills. All materials are free and can be obtained by completing the order form attached to this newsletter and mailing it to the address indicated on the form.

Cards for Drawing Speedball Numbers

The question has been raised, "Can we use cards to draw speedball numbers?" The Missouri Gaming Commission has determined this would be allowable as long as the cards are placed in a receptacle, as required in Chapter 313.005 (1).

REMINDERS

Licensee's Duty to Report and Prevent Misconduct. Regulation 11 CSR 45-30.550 requires that each organization promptly report to the Commission any violations of the bingo laws and/or regulations as well as any violent acts which may have occurred at the bingo game. Please remember to contact the Commission if any such activity occurs.

Bingo Workers Cannot be Compensated in any Manner. Bingo workers must volunteer their time to assist with bingo; therefore, they **cannot** be given appreciation dinners, free concessions, free coupons to use later, etc. All of these items are considered compensation and are not allowed. Some organizations feel if they pay for these items with other funds that makes it acceptable. This is not true. **Workers cannot receive anything from any source** according to the Missouri Constitution and Bingo Statutes.

Due Dates – Please pay close attention to the due dates for filing your applications and quarterly reports. There is a penalty for late filing. The cover memo that accompanies your bingo license renewal application will clearly state the date the application must be submitted in order to be timely. Quarterly Reports are required to be postmarked by April 30, July 31, October 31, and February 28.

Electronic Filing – If you file your Quarterly Report via email, make sure you get a receipt. If we do not send you a receipt, we did not receive your report. Penalties will not be waived unless you have a receipt from us stating we received your report.

Convicted Felons – Everyone is probably aware by now that anyone that has ever been convicted of a felony cannot assist in the management, conduct or operation of bingo. However, are you also aware that if your organization has knowledge that an individual has a felony conviction that person cannot even be on the premises while a bingo game is being conducted? Please refer to Chapter 313.040 (15). The statute does not require such individuals to terminate their membership. It just states they cannot be on the premises while bingo is being conducted.

Bingo Regulations

Included with this newsletter are a number of bingo regulations that have been revised and one new regulation that has been added. The following is a list of those changes and a brief explanation of how the changes affect your organization.

11 CSR 45-30.035 Bingo Card – Amended to allow for the use of Braille bingo cards for sight impaired bingo players, and the necessary steps in purchasing Braille cards or allowing the sight impaired individual to play using their own cards.

11 CSR 45-30.090 Additional Information – Amended to clarify that anyone involved in the management, conduct or operation of bingo must submit their social security number and date of birth as required with each application. This is **not** a new requirement. It is just being clarified in the rule.

11 CSR 45-30.140 Worker--Player – Amended to clarify when and how a bingo worker may switch from being a worker and become a bingo player or purchase pull-tab cards at a bingo occasion. Your organization may still elect to prohibit workers from playing at any time.

11 CSR 45-30.175 Organization (Operator) Recordkeeping Requirements – Amended to include record keeping requirements for the use of Braille bingo cards.

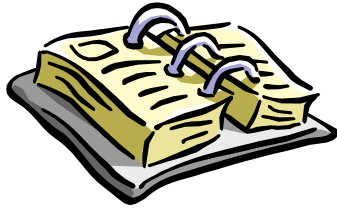
11 CSR 45-30.390 Manufacturer Defined – Amended to further clarify the definition of a manufacturer.

11 CSR 45-30.480 Package Deals and Tying Arrangements Prohibited – Amended to clarify requirements regarding leases or purchases of bingo supplies and equipment and/or property leases.

11 CSR 45-30.600 Electronic Bingo Card Monitoring Devices – Amended to clarify requirements for approval to provide Electronic Bingo Card Monitoring Devices (EBCMD) in Missouri.

11 CSR 45-30.610 Wireless Technology - This new rule sets forth the requirements for using wireless electronic products in the conduct of bingo games. Keep in mind that any wireless device would have to be approved by the Commission and Gaming Laboratories International prior to use.

STATUTE BOOK REPLACEMENTS



Enclosed with this newsletter are revised pages of the Bingo Statute/Regulation Booklet.

Please remove the front cover of your bingo statute book and replace it with the new cover reflecting the last revision date of September 30, 2006.

Under the 'Index' tab, remove 'Rules of Department of Public Safety Division 45-Missouri Gaming Commission Chapter 30-Bingo' pages 1-3 and replace them with the index pages 1-3 enclosed.

Under the 'Bingo Tax Rules' tab in your statute booklet, remove all pages 5-22 and replace them with pages 5-23 enclosed.